

Project description – Direct Observation Survey of Booster Seat Use

Please reference “Overview of OHSP competitive grant award process” on the Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) web site (<http://www.michigan.gov/ohsp>) for an explanation of the process.

Background

In order to reduce injuries to young children, Michigan law will require all children under age 8 and height 4' 9" to use a booster seat as of July 1, 2008. Booster seat use in Michigan is low, last estimated around 9%.

In order to determine behavioral changes as a result of the legislation, along with associated education and enforcement, OHSP wishes to know what proportion of children are in booster seats, six and twelve months after the law change.

Purpose

The grantee will design and conduct two direct observation surveys of booster seat use in Michigan, report the results, and provide recommendations as appropriate.

Deliverables

The grantee shall provide OHSP with an estimated booster seat use rate by February 9 and August 10, 2009. Additional tables may be requested in February. The grantee shall provide OHSP with a draft report by August 30, 2009. Following OHSP review, the final report shall be due by September 30, 2009 (20 print copies and an electronic copy).

The report shall include the statewide rate of booster seat use and recommendations for improving CRD use in Michigan.

Additional specifications

For reference, a previous survey report can be found at <http://hdl.handle.net/2027.42/3130>

The survey sample should, as closely as possible, represent the population of Michigan vehicles and children in vehicles, with accommodations to reduce error while surveying economically. OHSP expects differences in proposed survey methodologies, so explanation of why the proposed methodology is best will assist the award committee in making a decision.

Parent demographics will also be helpful in developing recommendations to improve booster seat use.

OHSP seeks two waves of observations. The first will take place around January 1, 2009, 6 months after the passage of the booster seat law. The second will take place around July 1, 2009. Observation scheduling is flexible if grant activity can be combined with other projects to create efficiencies. Reporting dates are not flexible unless the grantee wishes to report early.

While no plans have been made, there may be follow-up surveys in future years. If so, the grantee for this project would be the presumptive grantee for the follow-up.

The organization awarded the grant must agree to abide by the OHSP “Grant Management Requirements,” as posted on the OHSP web site. Following the selection of a successful proposal, the grantee must complete the formal grant application and review process through Michigan’s web-based grant application to finalize grant details. All OHSP grants are administered on a reimbursement basis. All grant-related costs incurred are first paid by the grantee, the grantee bills OHSP, and then OHSP reimburses the grantee. Quarterly progress and financial reports are required, even for quarters with no activity or expenditures.

Funding for this project is contingent upon the availability of U.S. Department of Transportation Highway Safety Funds for fiscal year 2009. Changes in federal plans may lead to changes in OHSP programs requiring reasonable accommodations from grantees to keep existing projects consistent with organizational goals. OHSP appreciates the difficulty of adjusting plans and appreciates grantees' flexibility in adapting projects to evolving conditions.

Due date

All proposals for this project must be received at OHSP by July 7, 2008. Proposals may be submitted electronically in Adobe Acrobat or Microsoft Office format. If submitting paper copies, the candidate must submit five (5) copies.

Contact information

Please direct proposals and any questions about this grant opportunity to:

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